

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

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SUB: NON-RUBBER FOOTWEAR STATISTICAL INFORMATION

REF: (A) STATE 85744; (B) ATHENS 1601

1. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO REF A:

(A) OFFICIAL DATA IS NOT AVAILABLE ON CURRENT AND PLANNED CAPACITY OF THE GREEK SHOE INDUSTRY. ACCORDING TO THE HELLENIC INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK (ETVA), CURRENT PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY IS APPROXIMATELY 28 MILLION PAIRS PER YEAR. THE GREEK SHOE AND LEATHER ORGANIZATION ESTIMATES TOTAL CAPACITY OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS AT 154 MILLION PAIRS, BROKEN DOWN AS FOLLOWS: 1977 - 25 MILLION PAIRS; 1978 - 27 MILLION; 1979 - 30 MILLION; 1980 - 34 MILLION, AND 1981 - 38 MILLION. FIGURES INCLUDE RUBBER AND NON-RUBBER FOOTWEAR OF WHICH FORMER REPRESENT 20-25 PERCENT.

(B) DATA IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR NEW INVESTMENT IN EXPORT-ORIENTED SHOE MANUFACTURING FACILITIES. FIGURES RELEASED BY THE GREEK SHOE
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AND LEATHER ORGANIZATION SHOW, HOWEVER, THAT DURING 1964-1973 INVESTMENT IN THE GREEK SHOE INDUSTRY INCREASED BY AN ANNUAL RATE OF 18.2 PERCENT AND IN THE PERIOD 1969-1973 THE RATE REACHED 23.5 PERCENT. INVESTMENT DURING 1970-1973 TOTALED 532 MILLION DRACHMAS. TRADE SOURCES REPORT THAT INVESTMENT IN THE SHOE INDUSTRY IS UNLIKELY TO CONTINUE AT THESE RATES AND THAT CURRENT CAPACITY IS SUFFICIENT TO MEET PROJECTED 100 PERCENT EXPANSION OF DEMAND

OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS.

(C) FIGURES ON EXPORTS OF NON-RUBBER FOOTWEAR BY SITC NO. FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS WERE PROVIDED BY THE GREEK NATIONAL STATISTICAL SERVICE AND AIRPOUCHED APRIL 25 IN TABLES COMPILED BY EMBASSY, ATTENTION EUR/SE RATIGAN. DATA SHOW THAT TOTAL NON-RUBBER SHOE EXPORTS INCREASED FROM 287 MILLION DRACHMAS (959 THOUSAND TONS) IN 1971 TO 1,756 MILLION DRACHMAS (4,542 THOUSAND TONS) IN 1975, WHILE EXPORTS TO THE U.S. INCREASED FROM 154 MILLION DRACHMAS (445 THOUSAND TONS) IN 1971 TO 1,112 MILLION DRACHMAS (2,553 THOUSAND TONS) IN 1975, AND EXPORTS TO WEST GERMANY, SECOND MAIN CUSTOMER, FROM 62 MILLION DRACHMAS (273 THOUSAND TONS) TO 291 MILLION DRACHMAS (937 THOUSAND TONS) IN 1975. TOTAL NON-RUBBER SHOE EXPORTS DURING THE FIVE-YEAR PERIOD 1971/1975 AMOUNTED TO 4,342 MILLION DRACHMAS WITH U.S. ACCOUNTING FOR 2,516 MILLION DRACHMAS (58 PERCENT OF TOTAL) AND WEST GERMANY 868 MILLION DRACHMAS (20 PERCENT OF TOTAL).
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